

June 30, 1963

Dear Joshua,

I was rather disturbed by Norman's behavior, who first gave permission to Howard to stay another year in Italy and thus set me, and you, in motion to find the means for Howard to stay here longer; then changed his mind and forced Howard to go back. I am very sorry for the trouble it may have given you. I am telling you this only to explain; I have not written to Norman about it, in order to avoid generating bad feelings between Norman and persons other than myself, but I certainly have been under some urge to let him know what I think of him.

News on the FP : there are three antibacterial substances which can be separated by chromatography, although they are close to each other and perhaps similar. None of them seems to be active at more than 100 ug/ml, unfortunately, but it is possible that we are still far from having purified them substantially.

At the moment we are trying the addition of ultraviolet, with a wide spectrum, to electric discharge, in order to try to activate a larger number of radicals.

I am at the moment seriously concerned by the financial prospects of the department after June 1964. Lepetit has asked for a 15 days postponement of the deadline of June 30 for annulling our contract; we had to accept it, and meanwhile they have written to Schering they do not want to renew. This means the loss of 50.000\$ a year, or 40.000 in case of partial continuation, after June 64. At the same date there will be a discontinuation of an LIQB grant to the cell culture laboratory (30.000\$ a year), as agreed some time ago.

Unfortunately, it seems that our best chances of getting financial support are ~~failing~~ failing us. Ciferri's request of a grant was approved by NIH, then cancelled for lack of money. I have also been notified by NIH that they will not ~~give~~ give new grants for training abroad, for the same reason. It is

obvious that the recent cut of allocations to NIH ~~shall~~ affect grants overseas, but it is nevertheless very embarrassing. Moreover, also the Italian National Research Council has recently had a cut in its funds, and with the present government or weak majority in Parliament it is very difficult <sup>to hope</sup> for an increase of funds on that side. Rockefeller will probably help, but it can only cover a small part of the gap.

I am writing, in case you have any advice. It seems that all financial sources are exhausted, but it is possible there may be others that I do not know. I am told NSF has suspended grants abroad. I still have to go to Frankfurt where there is a European office of the U.S. Army, and I will go there next month. NATO is without money (France does not pay); I want to go to Frankfurt to see if this is true also of the U.S. Army, but I cannot hope to get more than 10. or 15.000/a year.

As you see, prospects look pretty grim. Unfortunately, it seems as if I will not be able to come to Stanford next summer, ~~at~~ a very critical moment, in the life of the Department. I am very sorry.

Howard is preparing a report on what we have done so far on the effect of the month of birth. There is a significant effect on pigmentation, but the data are not good enough and should be considered only as an indication for further research.

All the best,

Luca

P.S. We have also had a couple of operations in the family in the last 4 weeks - Tommy was operated urgently at the appendix, a few hours before perforation, and Viollita almost destroyed her finger - My mother almost killed herself in a car accident but was very lucky! Quite a concentration of events this June. I also was in Iceland - that was the only pleasant part. I enjoyed it very much and may be able to develop something there -